

## CHAPTER 153.

AN ACT TO SECURE THE BETTER DRAINAGE OF THE LOW LANDS  
OF THE COUNTIES OF CATAWBA, LINCOLN, ROWAN, DAVIE,  
IREDELL, MECKLENBURG, CALDWELL AND BURKE.

*The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact :*

SECTION 1. That any number of citizens in the counties of Catawba, Lincoln, Rowan, Davie, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Caldwell or Burke, desirous of draining their lands along any stream or water course therein, may petition the board of county commissioners of the county in which said land is situated, or if the said land desired to be drained lies in more than one of said counties, then to the judge of the superior court of either county, in which said land is situated, to appoint five commissioners, whose duties shall be as hereinafter prescribed.

Commissioners to be appointed on petition of citizens.

SEC. 2. That said petition shall set forth the points between which they desire to drain their lands, and that the same cannot be drained and said water course kept free from obstruction, unless by the combined efforts of the land owners along said stream or water course.

What petition shall set forth.

SEC. 3. That the contents of said petition shall be advertised at the court house door and in three other public places in the county for one month, if the application is made before the county commissioners; if made before the judge of the superior court, then in a public newspaper, if any there be in either county through which said stream runs and is to be drained, and if none in said counties, then in any other public newspaper in said state.

Contents of petition to be advertised.

SEC. 4. That other land owners along said stream or water course may file a counter petition to the same, and the tribunal before whom the said application is made may grant or reject the same.

Counter petition.

SEC. 5. That if said commissioners or judge grant the said petition, then it shall be the duty of the said county commissioners or judge, as the case may be, to appoint

If petition granted county commissioners to appoint commissioners.